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RR RUEHWEB

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2758
INFO RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 4393
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 0028

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 000349

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DEPARTMENT FOR EAP/ANP-DRICCI AND SCA/FO-NKROMASH

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [AF](#) [NZ](#)
SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR DONATION FOR
AFGHAN ELECTION COSTS

REF: A. STATE 57541
[1](#)B. WELLINGTON 27

Post delivered demarche (ref A) April 12 to the New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID), requesting a donation to help cover the UN financial shortfalls for election costs in Afghanistan. Suzanne Loughlin of NZAID reported May 5 that her government would be unable to provide additional funds to Afghanistan, since it already had disbursed its budget for the current fiscal year. That included the final allocation of NZ \$1 million (US \$640,000) to the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund, of NZ \$5 million (US \$3.2 million) pledged this year. New Zealand also has pledged NZ \$5 million a year over the next three years for Afghanistan assistance, beginning in July (ref B). Loughlin agreed that the Afghan government should be encouraged to include election funding in future budgets as a routine practice.
McCormick